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December 20, 2006

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Appl. No. 10/620,617 for
VISCOSITY STABLE SMECTITE CLAY SLURRIES
Attorney Docket No.: 080395.52547C1 (051344-5037)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in connection with the above-referenced patent application are the following:

1. Request for Continued Examination Transmittal with Authorization to Charge Deposit Account with copy (1 page each for a total of 2 pages);
2. Response to Final Office Action with Authorization to Charge Deposit Account with copy of Authorization Page (6 pages total);
3. Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time with Authorization to Charge Deposit Account with copy (1 page each for a total of 2 pages); and
4. Self Addressed Post Card.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8)

I hereby certify that this paper and the papers and/or fees referred to herein as transmitted, submitted or enclosed, are being deposited on the date shown below with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Dana M. Kolesar

Signature

Date of Deposit: December 20, 2006

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Kindly acknowledge receipt of these documents by returning the enclosed self-addressed, stamped postcard to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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